

Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.

*Holy Communion is celebrated the second and fourth Sunday of each month.*



# ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Anchored in Christ Since 1867

3030 Navajo Ave. Watertown, MN 55388

Sunday School and Adult Bible Study  
10:15 a.m. (Sep-May)

Youth Confirmation Class  
10:15 a.m. (Sep-May)

## March 2026 Newsletter

### Upcoming Special Services

- Lent Service (03/04/26) - 7:00 pm
- Lent Service (03/11/26) - 7:00 pm
- Lent Service (03/18/26) - 7:00 pm
- Palm Sunday (03/29/26) - 9:00 am
- Maundy Thursday (04/02/26) - 7:00 pm
- Good Friday Tenebrae (04/03/26) - 7:00 pm
- Easter (04/05/26) - 9:00 am

### Project Easter Joy



Join us at St. Peter Lutheran Church on March 22nd right after the 9am service as we assemble Easter baskets for local families. The baskets will be distributed by the Delano Food Shelf and Watertown Food Shelf.

Last year, we put together over 200 Easter baskets! The Easter Joy items are made possible through generous support from Thrivent and free-will offering from the Palm Sunday Breakfast.

All ages are welcome! There is something for everyone to do! Simply head down to the Fellowship Hall after the 9am service and join in assembling the baskets.

Mark your calendar for March 22 and be part of this meaningful and joy-filled event!

Contact Ron Gust with any questions  
612/916-1639  
ronaldioanquist@gmail.com

### Palm Sunday Breakfast

March 29 10:00 am



Join us for Palm Sunday worship at 9:00 am, featuring Dr. Charles Asch, cellist. Following the service, stay for a Palm Sunday French Toast & Sausage Breakfast hosted by St. Peter's Youth!

Breakfast is offered as a free-will donation, with proceeds supporting Project Easter Joy. This project provides Easter baskets filled with goodies for the Watertown Food Shelf, Delano Food Shelf which distributes them to families in the area.

### Easter Flowers

You are invited to help beautify our church for Easter by ordering flowers. After the Easter Service, you may take your flowers home to enjoy.

Flower order forms were included in the February 8 Sunday bulletin. Additional forms are available on the table in the entrance of the Church.

Please complete the form and return it with your payment to one of the ladies listed at the bottom of the form.

Thank you for helping make our church beautiful for this joyful celebration!

**The deadline to place orders is March 16th**

### MARCH BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS



Paxton Mach	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Kruger Berkeley.	9 <sup>th</sup>
Jeanette Silas	4 <sup>th</sup>
Luke Jewison	5 <sup>th</sup>
Nick Eickschen	15 <sup>th</sup>
Michelle Barfnecht	24 <sup>th</sup>
Jordan Busse	29 <sup>th</sup>
Parker Mach	29 <sup>th</sup>
Peyton Mach	29 <sup>th</sup>

## Mission Update from the Berkleys



The tour has been going really well so far. We have led 3 Pastoral Workshops so far in South Africa and Swaziland. The curriculum topic of baptism has been as expected: Engaging, Controversial, and Fruitful. As usual, Alison and the kids have been ministering to the pastors alongside me in their own ways but also much more involved in serving the community members around us. Alison and the girls even had a fun opportunity to host a baby shower for one of our close friends here.



## CCLS Happenings

Monday, March 2, 2026 from 5-8 PM-DQ Art Night (7th and 8th grades)

Tuesday, March 17, 2026-La Catrina Taco 'Bout a Fundraiser for CCLS

Monday, March 30, 2026 from 5-8 PM-DQ Art Night (Kindergarten and 1st grade)



Our annual German celebration is just around the corner, which brings visitors to our church from a wide surrounding area. It's a wonderful opportunity to showcase who we are and share our traditions.

## Volunteers Needed

Many volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Help is needed beginning with set-up on Wednesday, May 13 at 5:00 PM, continuing through Sunday, May 17, including clean-up after the event, and also on Monday, May 18.

Watch for volunteer job sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the hallway entrance of the narthex.

Thank you for sharing your time and talents!

Contact Ron Gust 612/916-1639  
[ronaldjoangust@gmail.com](mailto:ronaldjoangust@gmail.com)

## Dartball



Dartball is a game in which darts are thrown underhand at a large wooden board that resembles a baseball field with areas denoting bases, home runs, outs, strikes and balls. Dartball uses baseball-like rules and scoring. Dartball has mild competition, great fellowship, wonderful food and lots of fun. Men or Women over the age of 12 can participate.

Anyone interested in participating or have any questions about Dartball, please contact any of the team members.

## Upcoming Games

New Germany (Home) (03/03/26) - 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Lester Prairie (Away) (03/10/26) - 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Young America (Away) (03/24/26) - 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

## **A Piece of Peace Reflections on Life in Christ**

March carries us deeper into the holy tension of Lent. It is a season that refuses to rush us, insisting instead that we walk—slowly, honestly, and faithfully—with the Lord who calls, meets, opens eyes, raises the dead, and finally sets His face toward the cross. Lent is not a sprint to Easter; it is a pilgrimage shaped by promise, repentance, and hope.

On the Second Sunday in Lent, God speaks to Abram with words that still steady our steps: “Go to the land that I will show you.” God does not give Abram a map, only a promise. Yet that promise proves firm enough to walk on. Faith, as Paul reminds us, rests not on what we achieve but on what God gives. And in the Gospel, Jesus reveals the heart of that promise: “God so loved the world...” New birth, new life, new direction—all grounded in grace. Lent begins by reminding us that we are not wanderers without purpose, but pilgrims led by a faithful God.

By the Third Sunday in Lent, the journey takes us to dry places. Israel thirsts in the wilderness. A Samaritan woman thirsts at a well. Beneath both stories lies our own quiet longing—for meaning, for forgiveness, for peace that lasts. Jesus meets thirst not with condemnation but with gift: living water. He still does. In Word and Sacrament, Christ satisfies restless hearts and teaches us that our deepest needs are met not by self-sufficiency, but by His mercy.

The Fourth Sunday in Lent brings us from shadow into light. A man born blind receives sight, and in the process learns not only how to see, but whom to trust. Lent often exposes our blindness—where we cling to darkness, fear change, or resist the truth. Yet Christ does not shame us into seeing; He calls us gently into the light. “Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.” This is not our achievement, but His work.

On the Fifth Sunday in Lent, the stakes rise. The valley of dry bones and the tomb of Lazarus confront us with what we fear most: death, loss, and helplessness. Into that silence Jesus speaks words that echo beyond the grave: “I am the resurrection and the life.” Lent teaches us to name death honestly—but never without hope. Where we see only endings, God breathes life.

Then March draws us to Palm Sunday, where shouts of Hosanna mingle with the shadow of the cross. The King arrives not in power as the world expects, but in humility. The same crowd that waves palms will soon hear the Passion. Lent does not look away from this contradiction. Instead, it teaches us to follow Jesus all the way—from praise to suffering, from triumph to the cross—trusting that His mercy is stronger than our fear.

This is the strange and holy peace of Lent: not the absence of struggle, but the presence of Christ. Piece by piece, promise by promise, the Lord walks with us—until the journey gives way to the empty tomb and the joy of Easter morning.

Until then, may this season grant you a piece of peace—rooted in Christ, shaped by His cross, and sustained by His unfailing love.

*In His Grace!  
Pastor Doug*